



Livestock Facility Siting Newsletter Release

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In order to track and evaluate our information and education efforts, we would appreciate notice if you include this information in your publication

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**Contact: Coreen Fallat, 608-224-4625
Coreen.fallat@datcp.state.wi.us**

Livestock Facility Siting Update

The Wisconsin Livestock Facility Siting Law and Rule have both been approved by the Legislature. The Livestock Facility Siting Law and Rule change how local government can regulate the siting of new and expanded livestock operations. The siting law and the siting rule do not require local governments to regulate the siting of livestock operations. The decision to regulate should be made locally. With the passage of this legislation, there are some key dates that are important to local governments and livestock farmers.

Key Dates

The zoning components of the livestock facility siting law (s. 93.90 Wisc. Stats) took effect October 1, 2005. Local governments should evaluate their zoning, if any, to determine the effect of the siting law. If a zoning ordinance is affected by the siting law, local governments must make changes to their ordinance to bring it in compliance with the state law.

The siting rule (ATCP 51) takes effect on May 1, 2006. The rule establishes state standards and procedures local governments must use if they require livestock farmers to apply for individual permits for their livestock operation. As of May 1, *existing* siting ordinances are no longer valid. If a local government with an *existing* siting ordinance wants to continue requiring livestock siting permits, it must begin using the state siting standards and procedures by May 1. Although these local governments must begin using the siting standards and procedures by May 1, they have until November 1 to officially update their ordinances.

There are no key dates for local governments that do not currently have an ordinance requiring siting permits. If a local government decides to require siting permits, they may adopt one at any time. The ordinance must use the state standards and procedures in the siting rule.

The siting law and the siting rule do not require a town or county to adopt a new ordinance or amend an existing ordinance to regulate the siting or expansion of livestock operations if they do not want to require permits for this activity. The decision to continue to regulate or to begin to regulate is a local decision.



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Contact Jennifer Heaton-Amrhein, livestock siting program manager, at 608-224-4613 for general assistance on law and rule implementation and Sara Kwik, ordinance specialist, at (608) 224-4604 for specific ordinance questions.

Training Opportunities

The Wisconsin Towns Association is hosting four regional workshops to help local town's officials understand the livestock siting law and rule. Call (715) 526-3157 for information.

- May 1 in Stevens Point
- May 2 in Manitowoc
- May 5 in Richland Center
- May 9 in Madison

Additional training opportunities may be also available. Check the DATCP siting website or contact Coreen Fallat at 608-224-4625 for up-to-date training opportunities.

http://www.datcp.state.wi.us/arm/agriculture/land-water/livestock_siting/siting.jsp

Resources for Help

The following websites have helpful information:

- http://www.datcp.state.wi.us/arm/agriculture/land-water/livestock_siting/siting.jsp contains fact sheets, application materials, the odor worksheet, complete text of siting law and rule, presentations, and other valuable information.
- www.wisctowns.com for information that is helpful to town governments.
- <http://www.soils.wisc.edu/extension/235/> for a statewide interactive map of existing local permit requirements.

For additional information on the Livestock Facility Siting Law and Rule, please contact Jennifer Heaton-Amrhein, livestock siting program manager, at 608-224-4613.